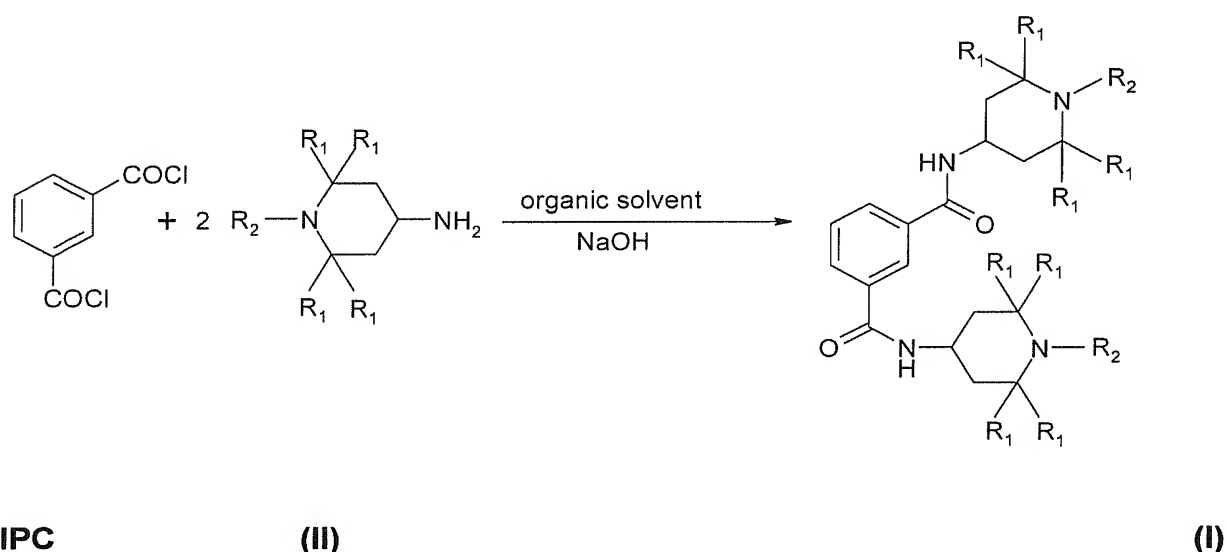


# Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a stabilizer of formula (I) comprising the step of reacting, by condensation, isophthalic acid dichloride with a sterically hindered amine of formula (II),



wherein  $\text{R}_1$  is H,  $\text{C}_6$ -cycloalkyl or  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$ -alkyl, and  $\text{R}_2$  is H,  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_5$ -alkyl, or a  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_{10}$ -alkyloxy-group, wherein the reacting step includes adding the isophthalic acid dichloride to the amine in a solution of at least one solvent, water and  $\text{NaOH}$  at a temperature of 25 to 35°C to form a reaction mixture, and heating the reaction mixture in an autoclave to a temperature of 90 - 110 °C at a system pressure of 1.3 - 1.7 bars, wherein the at least one solvent is an organic aromatic hydrocarbon or an aliphatic alcohol.

2. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein  $\text{R}_1$  is H or  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_2$ -alkyl and  $\text{R}_2$  is H or  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_2$ -alkyl.

3. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1 wherein R<sub>1</sub> is methyl and R<sub>2</sub> is H.
4. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the molar ratio of the isophthalic acid dichloride to the amine is from 1 to 1.8 - 2.0.
5. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the at least one solvent is xylene, ethanol isopropanol or a mixture of 60 - 80 % isopropanol and 20 - 40 % water by volume.
6. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein the adding step further comprises stirring the mixture for 50 to 70 minutes while maintaining the same temperature.
7. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, wherein a phase separation occurs after the heating step to form an organic phase and wherein the process further comprises adding water to the organic phase and heating the water and organic phase to a temperature of 130 - 140 °C at a pressure of 3.0 - 4.0 bars.
8. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 1, comprising the step of cooling the reaction mixture to ambient temperature and isolating the compound of formula (I).
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)
11. (Cancelled)